

# RAMAKRISHNA MISSION VIDYAMANDIRA

(A Residential Autonomous College)

Belur Math, Howrah

B.A./B.Sc. 1st Semester (July – December 2010)

**Mid-Semester Examination, September 2010**

Date: 06.09.2010

**English (Honours)**

Full Marks 50

Time: 11 am – 1 pm

## Group - A

1. Answer any **one** of the following within 400 words: 10
  - a) Write a short note on old English Heroic poetry.
  - b) *Beowulf* has the general effect of being 'a long elegy' rather than that of an epic. Do you agree? Discuss.
2. Answer any **three** of the following within 30 words: 3x2
  - a) How many fragments of 'Waldere' exist? State briefly the contexts of each fragment.
  - b) Which King does Beowulf serve? Why was it essential for Beowulf to leave this King and go to Hrothgar's aid?
  - c) When did the Battle of Maldon take place? Why is Brythnoth accused of 'ofermode' in the poem?
  - d) Who fought whom at the Battle of Brunanburh? Why is the poem considered to be historically important?

## Group - B

3. Answer any **one** of the following questions within 400 words: 10
  - a) How far did the Norman Conquest affect the course of the history of English literature?
  - b) Write a short essay on the characteristics of the Middle English Romances with reference to 'Sir Gawain and the Green Knight'.
4. Answer any **one** of the following questions within 30 words: 3x2
  - a) How did the loss of Normandy in 1204 affect the Normans in England?
  - b) Who were the Normans? When did they invade England?
  - c) Mention the chivalric ideals of life that a Christian Knight was supposed to uphold in the Middle English period.
  - d) Briefly show your acquaintance with the concept of courtly love.
  - e) What Christian view of the universe did persistently recur in the bulk of Middle English literature?

## Group - C

5. Answer any **one** of the following questions within 500 words: 14
  - a) 'The influence of Latin on English has been something between a help and a hindrance'. Examine the view with suitable examples.
  - b) Write an essay on the nature and extent of the French influence on the English vocabulary.
6. Write short notes on any **one** of the following within 150 words: 4
  - a) Three characteristics of Indo-European languages
  - b) Stress-Shift
  - c) Scandinavian war and law terms